Mountain Weather Forecast

Northwest Highlands

Including Sutherland, Ben Wyvis, Wester Ross, The Cuillin, Glen Affric, Glen Shiel and Knoydart
Forecast valid from 06:00 on Monday 18 Dec 2023 until 23:59 on Tuesday 19 Dec 2023

Forecast Issued on Monday 18 Dec 2023 at 02:27 by Met Office Aberdeen

Confidence: Generally high for mostly windy conditions and gradually turning colder. Main uncertainties exact wind strength, and extent of any cloud breaks.

Headline for Monday 18 Dec 2023: Mostly cloudy, patchy light rain or drizzle in morning. Brighter for a time in the afternoon, but heavy, blustery showers pushing in from northwest after dark.

Mountain weather hazards on Monday 18 Dec 2023

Blizzards
No Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Gales
Low Likelihood

Severe chill effect
Medium Likelihood

Poor visibility
High Likelihood

Thunderstorms
Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
FOG					
Fog	Light rain	Cloudy	Heavy Rain	Light snow	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability					
10%	40%	20%	60%	30%	10%

Forecast for Monday 18 Dec 2023

Weather: Low cloud and patchy drizzle at first in south, brighter in north, but becoming cloudy in the morning with rain or drizzle more widespread, although Assynt and far north drier and brighter. Brightening up for a couple of hours in the afternoon, but cloud thickens and lowers again towards dusk with a band of heavy and squally showers pushing in from the northwest. Clearing in evening then only the odd wintry shower.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 10% or less in the morning. 30% in the afternoon, best chance across the Caithness hills.

Low cloud and visibility: Generally very poor visibility in the morning, cloud mostly persistent with bases above 500m in the west, 700m in the east, rising to 900m at times in the afternoon with some breaks, especially across the Caithness hills in the afternoon. Becoming mostly good beneath cloud in eth afternoon, but poor or very poor in heavy rain then snow showers, Cloud largely breaking up in the evening.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Monday 18 Dec 2023

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	28/32 SW	38/45 SW	42/52 SW	41/51 SW	34/42 W	28/36 W	28/36 W
900	25/29 SW	36/42 SW	41/51 SW	38/49 SW	32/40 W	28/36 W	27/35 W
600	19/24 SW	27/33 SW	30/40 SW	27/37 SW	21/30 W	18/26 W	17/26 W
300	1/20 SW	7/33 SW	11/40 SW	7/35 SW	8/31 W	5/26 W	4/24 W
Glen	5/14 SW	11/22 SW	14/28 SW	16/33 SW	13/26 W	8/19 W	10/22 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
1000	3/-3	2/-7	1/-7	2/-7	-1/-10	-2/-10	-2/-11
900	4/-2	2/-5	2/-6	2/-5	-0/-8	-1/-9	-2/-10
600	6/1	4/-2	4/-2	5/-1	2/-4	1/-4	1/-5
300	7/6	6/4	7/4	7/5	5/2	3/1	3/1
Glen	9/8	9/6	9/6	9/6	7/4	6/3	6/2
Freezing Level*	2000m	1600m	1200m	1300m	800m	600m	600m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Met Office Aberdeen Meteorologist's View

Winds may be around 10 mph stronger than in the table across the higher summits in the morning. Note freezing levels remaining well above the summits across hills south of Torridon and the Fannichs until midday.

Forecast for Tuesday 19 Dec 2023

Weather: Patchy cloud increases in the early hours. A band of heavy rain, snow above 600-700m, sweeps east around dawn. Then frequent occasionally heavy showers, falling as snow above 500m in the north, 800m in the south. Showers may merge to more continuous rain, snow above 600m at the start of the night. Severe summit gales.

Maximum wind: Westerly 40 gusting 50 to 60 mph.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 30%

Low cloud and visibility: Variable visibility and cloud bases. Cloud often around 1000m, but frequently lowering to 600m as showers pass through. Visibility good outside of low cloud, but reducing to a few km or less in showers.

Temperature: **Glens:** Plus 4 or 5 Celsius.
At 800m: Around zero Celsius.
Freezing level: 800-900m.

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